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PUBLIC DISAPPROVAL OF EDITOR HOFRICHTER'S SENTENCE.

He Had Merely Denounced the Ill Treatment of Inmates of a House of Correction—The Disappearance of the Famous Berlin Lawyer—Friedmann Makes a Statement—Herr Hammerstein Arrested.

BERLIN, Dec. 28.—The recent sentence of three months' imprisonment against Herr Hofrichter, editor of the *Rhine Gazette*, a Socialist newspaper, for having denounced barbaries upon inmates of the House of Correction at Brauweiler, has aroused a violent public commotion, which is certain to rebound in favor of the Socialists. Outside of ultra-conservative circles there is absolute unanimity in condemning the sentence. The *Tageblatt* declares that Herr Hofrichter deserved a public tribute instead of imprisonment for exposing cruelties upon the helpless who were paraded only in the middle ages. If his conviction was the result of the existing law, the paper says, then the law must be altered. "It is no wonder," the *Tageblatt* continues, "that the German people are turning Socialists in masses when the horrors of the Brauweiler institution are defended by law." The *Vossische Zeitung* condemns the finding and judgment of the court in much the same language.

The *National Zeitung*, which has become a reactionist organ, attempts to mitigate the popular effect of the sentence by maintaining that it was not altogether for disclosing the horrors of the treatment met out to the inmates that Herr Hofrichter was convicted and sentenced, but for other offenses as well. "Besides revealing the deplorable abuses practised in the Brauweiler House of Correction," the *Zeitung* says, "Herr Hofrichter made an attack upon the Director of Prisons personally." But as the judgment of the court is notoriously based upon editorial criticisms of a public institution, the contention of the *National Zeitung* has not any weight. The fact is that it is not the Socialists alone that dread the new forms of applying the law. The suppression of political associations by the authorities and the continuous prosecutions of the press for freedom of opinion alarms the Centrists and the Progressives also. All parties are equally incensed.

The temper of the Conservatives is carrying them to the length of proposing the expulsion of the *Zeitung* from Berlin. The *Neue Freie Presse*, a high-class journal, which was notably influential during Prince Bismarck's power, urges the return to the pedestal of the old *Neue National-Zeitung*, the predecessor of the *Reichstag* to question every Deputy suspected of socialism as to whether he has received any information from the *Zeitung*. The Deputy shall refuse to answer or to pledge himself that he has renounced socialism his mandate as a member of the Reichstag shall be denied.

The Conservative newspapers favor the proposal, but express doubt of its efficacy due to the ground that, as the Socialists would not hesitate to continue their interests in their party before courts of law, they equally would not hesitate to verbally make a false report of their political opinions. If they were forced to do so before the Reichstag,

ARTHUR TRIPP'S SUICIDE.

Like His Father, Despite His Large Fortune, He Was Subject to Fits of Despondency.

POUGHKEEPSIE, Dec. 28.—As the facts come out the suicide of Arthur Tripp on Friday is not so mysterious as it first appeared to be. It was a hasty act, but judging from the dead man's character and antecedents it was not a surprising one. His father and grandfather were victims of melancholia. Despite his large fortune, the father, S. Vincent Tripp, was subject to fits of despondency, when he thought he was without a dollar in the world. His son inherited this trait. He also had a taste for liquor, which, since his father's death last September, he had been trying to overcome.

S. Vincent Tripp was the founder of Tripp's elevator at Thirty-fourth street and North River, and for thirty years was a member of the New York Produce Exchange. He was also a director in the Home Bank. Two years prior to his death he married his third wife, Miss Jessie Farrar, a middle-aged woman, who for a number of years had been a stewardess in the Home for the Friendless in this city. By an antenuptial agreement she gave Miss Farrar property valued at \$15,000. By his will, after a few trifling bequests, he left his only son, Arthur N. Tripp, all of his estate, amounting to \$25,000 personal property and \$250,000 in real estate, to him and his business partner, Capt. Isaac N. Wickes, as executors. Capt. Wickes has had no children. The administration of his business is now in the hands of Mr. Tripp's widow. During his whole life of forty-one years Alfred Tripp had relied on his father for counsel, and had no close friends. He was a good bookkeeper and kept his father's books in first-class shape, though he had little time for study. He was not a good business man, as a year before his father's death he lost heavily in speculation and was compelled to sell his interest. He speculated lately, as his father's estate has not been settled yet, and he could not have drawn money without its being known.

Some time ago his widow thought that she had not got enough money out of the estate and asked for an annuity of \$500. She threatened to sue if she did not get it. The manager of nothing, as the will had been admitted to probate, and even if it had been broken all the money would have gone to the son. Arthur Tripp had no income, but he had a large sum over it a great debt. For two weeks past he has spoken about there being nothing in life for him. On Friday evening he was back in the yard and cut a wire of coathose and went up in the room down stairs with about ten persons who were in need of the doctor's services.

For a long time he had been physically fit, and he made such rumors that the waiting patients were stampeded. In their hurry to get to the room where the doctor resided, where the men were fighting the fire, the coal bins in the rear. Just then the cry was raised that the dumb waiter shaft at 857 was on fire, and the flames reached the roof. A third alarm was turned in, and soon twelve fire companies and four trucks were on the scene, with Chief Bonner in command. The fire was under control twenty seconds later, but the building was a total loss.

A couple of the house physicians seized Clarke and soon restored his calmness.

RUMPS IN A HOSPITAL.

Waiting Patients Stampeded by a Man Who Had a Fit.

A Newfoundland dog was lying on the sidewalk on Creston avenue near 186th street yesterday morning when Oscar Wolf of 5747 East 147th street and Edward Clark of Mount Hope, who were giving out advertising circulars, came along. The dog did not like their looks and he barked for Wolf. He knocked him down and took a bite out of the ear of his left leg. Clarke clubbed the dog and chased him away. Then he told Wolf to the Firehouse. Wolf was wounded. During the process Clarke waited in the room down stairs with about ten persons who were in need of the doctor's services.

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Meanwhile the police and fire patrolmen were busy putting the women and children out of the building. Mrs. Letitia Helton and three children were found overcome by smoke on the first floor of 857, and were rescued by Police Officer John O'Connor. One child recovered. An old man named Stewart, on the fourth floor of 857, was rescued by Police Officer John O'Connor. The damage to the building was about \$800.

Investigation after the fire showed that there were two distinct fires. One was in the coal bin, another in the dumb waiter shaft, and the cellar under 857 was a low arched doorway in the wall. There were no traces of the fire having passed through this. The entire building was gutted, and the top floor of 857 was badly charred, and the theory is that another fire was started there so both houses were destroyed. The fire chief said that the fire was started probably for the purpose of robbery. The building is owned by the David Jones estate.

OBITUARY.

Mr. Goldsmith, the proprietor of extensive cattle yards in Jersey City, and one of the best known stock dealers in the country, died suddenly of heart disease at his home, 29 East Seventh-street, on Thursday. Mr. Goldsmith was born in Berlin, Germany, in 1848, and came to this country in 1865. He became a partner in the *Reichstag* in 1870, and in 1874 in the *Reichstag* in New York. From 1874 to 1881 he was a clerk in the book store of Crosby, Nichols, & Co., of Boston. From 1881 to 1885 he was a partner in the business, and he established the yards in Jersey City. Mr. Goldsmith did a large business in exporting cattle for the eastern market. His wife, a widow and a widow and five daughters survive him. Mr. Goldsmith was identified with the work of the Anti-Saloon League and the Temperance and the Congregation of the Adath Israel. The Rev. Dr. Kirschbaum will conduct the funeral services at 1 P. M. on Saturday. The burial will be in the Washington Cemetery.

The succession of the week has been the assumption of the great Berlin lawyer, Fritz Friedmann, for whom the Socialists had not lessened their contempt in the interests of their party before courts of law, they equally would not hesitate to verbally make a false report of their political opinions and receive the highest fees. As an instance of the greed of the Socialists, it is related that he received \$6,000 marks for defending the black Pöke son some time ago. It is said that he is an income averaged 500,000 marks a year. He was born in Berlin, and his wife, a widow, has been issued a police officer to allow a lady client whom the officer was willing to trust to escape. Friedmann has had representations from the Socialists, and he certainly has the greatest practice and receives the highest fees. As an instance of the greed of the Socialists, it is related that he received \$6,000 marks for defending the black Pöke son some time ago. 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